LA GRANADA

November 2026

Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez

San Antonio Founding Chapter

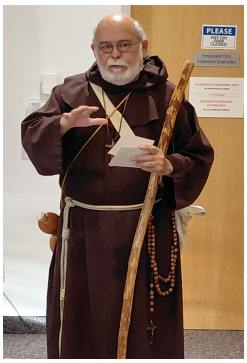
editor: joe pérez

Being Loud in a Library

On Monday, 5 October, we gave a history presentation at the Henry Guerra Library. José González, Adam Dominguez, Joe Weathersby, and Joe Perez spoke about Spain's important involvement in the American Revolution.

Governor González took the audience on a timeline of Gálvez's battles that resulted in the British being removed entirely from the Gulf Coast. Then, he introduced each of the presenters who served as a different member of Gálvez's army. Governor González spoke about the role of a priest in fulfilling the spiritual needs of the soldiers as well as providing last rites when needed. Adam Dominguez portrayed a Granadero and presented information on how that type of soldier differed from a regular soldier. He also spoke about his uniform and weapons. Joe Weathersby portrayed a militiaman and spoke about the important role they played in augmenting the regular infantry by serving as scouts and fighting on the battlefield. Joe Perez spoke about the role of a drummer in relaying an officer's commands to the troops throughout the day.









It is very fitting that the library is named in honor of one of the founders of our organization.

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Next Meeting

Wednesday, November 4

La Fonda Restaurant

8633 Crownhill Blvd

Dinner: 6:00 Meeting 7:00

Speaker:

Gabriela Gámez

Presentation:

Tejano Legacy:

Another American Origin Story



NOVEMBER BABIES

Nov 8
Roberto Flores

Nov 15
Elizabeth Perez

Nov 20
Jola Ruth West

Nov 23
Sylvia Garcia

Nov 24
Christina Robinson

Nov 28
Karla Galindo

Zoom Link to November Meeting:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86356137642?pwd=fN4E4tgMX8MkoMaYq7Ea6fS6ZIBG1n.1

Gabriela Gámez grew up in Mexico City with a passion for Latin American art. She joined the San Antonio Museum of Art as Curatorial Assistant for Latin American Art. She later curated the record-breaking exhibit *Frida Kahlo Oasis* at the San Antonio Botanical Garden. She currently serves as guest curator for the Briscoe Western Art Museum's exhibit *Tejano Legacy: Another American Origin Story.*

Governor
José (Joe) González

Deputy Governor
Joe Weathersby

Treasurer
Manny Rodriguez

Secretary
Janie Rodriguez

Chaplain
Charles Carvajal

Sergeant Major
Adam Dominguez

New Member

We extend a cordial welcome to our newest member, **Donna Sessions Waters** who joins us from Pensacola, Florida. Dama Waters, we thank you for your interest in our organization and for joining us in our quest to educate the public about Spain's participation in the American Revolution, especially the heroic efforts of General Bernardo de Gálvez. ***Welcome Dama Donna Sessions Waters!***

Governor González in Kerrville

On Friday, 9 October, Governor José González gave a presentation to the Military Order of the World Wars Kerrville Chapter. He spoke about Gálvez and Spain's involvement in the American Revolution and, when he was done, there were several who said, "I never knew that." This is a group whose members are well-versed in military history who learned something new. Good job, Governor González!



National Day of Spain in Houston

Chapters of the Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez participated in the National Day of Spain on 12 October in Houston. Some of the other chapters have members who are descendants of men who fought in Gálvez's army.



The San Antonio Chapter was represented by Manny & Janie Rodriguez as well as Gustavo Hinojosa. They had a great time. Shown at left are Manny Rodriguez (incoming Governor General); the Consul General of Spain in Houston, D. Jesus Sanz Escorihuela; Janie Rodriguez; and outgoing Governor General John Espinosa. It was a special weekend that celebrated the long-lasting bond between Spain and the United States of America that goes back to the birth of our country.

Bexareños Tejano 250 Conference



Proudly representing the Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez--San Antonio Founding Chapter, Governor José L. González, participated in the Tejano 250 Plus Genealogical & Historical Conference hosted on 23-24 October 2026 by Los Bexareños Genealogical and Historical Society. The conference was attended by members of seven state-wide genealogical organizations. The 23 Oct. opening session consisted of a five-person panel made up of the speakers scheduled to deliver individual presentations on Saturday, 24 Oct. Ours was titled "Bernardo de Gálvez and Spain's Role in the American Revolution---What You Were Never Taught in School." A huge thank you to Los Bexareños leadership & conference officials for allowing us to not just tell the story, but to continue telling the WHOLE story. (Above: Gov. González; at right: Peter Baron)



Dues are Due Soon

Membership Dues for calendar year 2027 are due by January 1, 2027. Dues are $30 for Full Member status and $15 for Associate Member status. Full Members have voting rights, can hold office, can chair committees, are eligible for discounts on books offered by the chapter, and have automatic membership in the National Order. Associate Members cannot vote, nor hold office, nor have automatic membership in the National Order, however, they can serve on committees, participate in all chapter events, and are eligible for discounts on books offered by the chapter.

The chapter relies on its members' dues for financial support to carry out its mission. To submit payment for dues, you can make a check payable to Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez and mail it to Granadero Dues, PO Box 34691, San Antonio TX 78265 or take a photo of the QR Code at left with your cell phone and use the Venmo app to pay.

Nominating Committee

At the October meeting, the Nominating Committee presented its nominees for the positions of Governor (President) and Deputy Governor (Vice President) for our chapter. The committee nominated José (Joe) González for another term as Governor and Janie Rodriguez for Deputy Governor. Those are the only two elected positions. All other officer positions are appointed by the Governor, as are the Committee Chairs.

Per our chapter bylaws, the electons will be held during the November meeting by a majority vote of Full Members present at the meeting. Officers voted in will begin their 2-year terms on 1 January 2027.



2026 CHRISTMAS PARTY
Registration Form



Get ready for some fun and food at our annual Christmas Party.

Please complete this registration form and send it
so that we receive it no later than November 21.

To pay by check: Make checks payable to Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez and mail with registration to P.O. Box 34691, San Antonio TX 78265.
To pay by Venmo: Take a photo of the QR Code below with your cell phone and use the Venmo app.

Saturday, December 5

12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Paloma Blanca Mexican Cuisine

5800 Broadway Ste 300

Choose one entree per person from the following:

Puntas de Puerco: Spicy 7 oz. lean pork marinated with roasted garlic and covered in Salsa de Chile Chipotle. Served with Spanish rice and frijoles borrachos.

*** * *Mixed Fajita Plate * * ***
Marinated and grilled beef and chicken, bell peppers and onions.
Served with Spanish rice, refried beans, guacamole and pico de gallo.

Beef Chile Relleno: Poblano pepper filled with beef and potatoes, white cheese and covered with Salsa Española. Served with Spanish rice and frijoles borrachos.

Drinks: Water, Ice Tea, or Soda Appetizer: Bean & Cheese Nachos Dessert: Mango Sorbet

Dietary Restrictions and/or Food Allergies: _____

Name:_____ Menu Selection:_____

Name:_____ Menu Selection:_____

Name:_____ Menu Selection:_____

Number of people =_____ x $35.00 per person = $_____ Total

A Washington Update: Gálvez and the Age of Revolutions

By Andrew D. Stevenson

For readers of *La Granada*, September offered a useful snapshot of how the history of Spain and the American Revolution is being presented to wider audiences during the nation's 250th anniversary. As a Washington-based member of the Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez, I attended several of these programs in Washington and Richmond before spending part of the following weekend at a related conference in Philadelphia.

The first Washington event was the September 16 premiere of *Hidden Allies: Spain's Missing Chapter in American Independence* at the U.S. Navy Memorial. Produced by Elisa Bourguet Hutton and presented by Iberdrola and Avangrid, the documentary examines people from Spain, the Caribbean, and the Americas who contributed to American independence. A reception preceded the screening and panel discussion, with remarks from Iberdrola Group CEO Pedro Azagra. Ángeles Moreno Bau, the Ambassador of Spain to the United States, was among the guests.



Andrew Stevenson (second from right) with Ambassador of Spain to the United States Ángeles Moreno Bau (far right) and other guests following the September 16 premiere.

The film placed Gálvez within a larger network of soldiers, sailors, merchants, officials, and financiers operating across Spain's American territories. This wider frame helps explain how supplies, money, military operations, and maritime connections linked New Orleans, Havana, the Gulf Coast, and the thirteen states.

The following evening, Smithsonian Associates and the Cultural Office of the Embassy of Spain presented *How Spain Supported the American Revolution: The Key Role of Bernardo de Gálvez*. Historian Larrie D. Ferreiro discussed Spain's military, financial, and logistical support, while National Portrait Gallery curator Robyn Asleson examined the 1781 portrait of Gálvez attributed to Cuban artist José Nicolás de Escalera. The portrait, on loan from the Iberdrola Collection, is now displayed in the National Portrait Gallery exhibition *Out of Many: Portraits from 1600 to 1900.*



Ambassador Ángeles Moreno Bau (far right) joins a gallery viewing of the 1781 portrait of Gálvez.

Its inclusion matters because visitors can now encounter Gálvez among the people represented in one of the country's principal collections of American portraiture. The Smithsonian program also included music, an exhibition of works by twelve Spanish artists, and a reception at Spain's Cultural Office.

The focus moved to Richmond on September 23, when the Virginia Museum of History & Culture and the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute held an evening on Spain's

contributions to American independence. Ambassador Gonzalo M. Quintero Saravia, a Spanish diplomat and the author of the leading modern biography of Gálvez, delivered the principal lecture. The program also featured members of the Fixed Regiment of Spanish Louisiana, remarks from the Embassy of Spain and the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute, and after-hours access to the museum's Revolutionary Allies exhibition.



Andrew Stevenson (far right) with Ambassador Gonzalo M. Quintero Saravia (center), reenactors from the Fixed Regiment of Spanish Louisiana, and other participants at the Virginia Museum of History & Culture.

The museum displayed original documents related to Spain and the Revolution, including a 1779 report by Richard Henry Lee on possible Spanish intervention and a letter from French minister Conrad Alexandre Gérard urging Congress to pursue an alliance with Spain. A London map published in 1783 showed the new United States beside the much larger territories claimed by Spain and Britain. It was a clear reminder that the Revolution unfolded within a continental and Caribbean world that looked very different from the modern map.

That broader view continued at the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia, which hosted *The Declaration's Journey: A Convening on the International Legacy* on September 25 and 26. The conference examined the Declaration's influence in Europe, West Africa, Latin America, Haiti, and Asia. Sessions of particular interest included discussions of the 1783 peace settlement, diplomacy and Haiti's contribution to the American Revolution, and the ways museums in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Mexico interpret their independence movements.

While in Philadelphia, I also visited the reopened Portrait Gallery in the Second Bank of the United States. Its collection includes more than one hundred portraits, many by Charles Willson Peale, of political leaders, officers, diplomats, and others from the Revolutionary generation. The section on the Revolution's diplomats was especially interesting after the conference, as was the opportunity to see Lafayette and other familiar figures back on public display.

Each institution approached the history differently, through film, portraiture, documents, scholarly discussion, or living history. Together, the programs placed Gálvez within the wider relationships that supported American independence and later influenced independence movements elsewhere in the Americas. With the subsequent New Orleans gathering likely to receive its own coverage, this is simply a brief update on several recent developments from Washington and the Northeast.

Andrew Stevenson is a Washington-based member of the Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez San Antonio Founding Chapter, the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Maryland, and the District of Columbia Society of the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America.

Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez
San Antonio Founding Chapter

Minutes for the meeting held
October 7, 2026at La Fonda Restaurant
By Secretary Janie Rodriguez

Officers in Attendance:

Governor Joe González, Deputy Governor Joe Weathersby, Treasurer Manny Rodriguez, and Secretary Janie Rodriguez

Attendance:

Dr. Sarah Zenalda Gould - Guest Speaker

Debbie Flores, Cindi Flores, Lucila Flores, Roberto Flores, Ron Finch, Valarie Finch, Robert Garcia, Stella González, Edna Gravenhorst, Linda Graves, Peggy Guerrero, Norma Langwell, Nancy Lara, David Peters, Julia Peters, Joe Perez, Vedia Weathersby, Alex Zamora, Melissa Zamora.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Governor Joe González. The Invocation was given by Deputy Governor Joe Weathersby and Cindi Flores led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Governor then reminded all that the Minutes for the September meeting had been distributed by email. With no corrections, Motion was made by Manny Rodriguez and seconded by Joe Weathersby. Motion passed.

Treasurer Manny Rodriguez gave a report for the month of August 2026. The Savings Account Balance for the beginning of the month of September was $19,277,60. The end of month total for savings was $19,282.35. Included are 2 CD'S. A Scholarship CD at $2,000.00 and a 2025 General Fund CD: $1,000.00.

The checking account balance as of September 1, 2026 was $12,709.81 and the end of month total was $10,357.85. Please address any questions to Treasurer Manny Rodriguez or Governor Joe González.

A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Joe Weathersby and seconded by Melissa Zamora, Motion carried.

Governor Joe González announced October birthdays and "Happy Birthday" was sung by all!

Old Business:

Governor Joe González recapped past events for our chapter in September and October as follows.

2026 Hispanic Heritage Month Activities.

Sept. 19 DAR Patriot Plaque dedication in Gonzales, Tx

Oct. 05 Library Presentation at Henry Guerra Branch

Committee Reports: Biennial Nominations Committee:

Past Governor Joe Perez announced the nominations for Governor as Joe González and Deputy Governor as Janie Rodriguez.

Membership: Joe Perez reported the membership to date is 100 including 13 members from RGV. Dues are now due for 2027.

Scholarship: Governor Joe announced that all requirements for the 2027 scholarship have been submitted to the MinnieStevens Piper Foundation, and we should hear a response by January 2027.

Soldados/Fife & Drum: Governor Joe González announced the upcoming schedule.

24 October—America 250 Event at Goliad State Park; Details TBA

07 November—Veterans Day Parade

20 November- Lytle Jr. High History Day



New Business: 2026 Christmas Party event- Manny and Janie Rodriguez asked the membership about replacing the current menu with a new menu increasing the price by $10.00. After a brief discussion, a vote was taken to leave the menu as is.

A significant donation was received at the Battle of Medina symposium and was used to purchase a new Chapter-owned laptop and camera for Zoom transmissions and speakers' presentations.

Announcements: Gov. González will share his presentation on Bernardo de Gálvez and Spain's Role in the American Revolution to the Kerrville Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars on 09 October at 11 am

DAR Event in Galveston 28 October 10:00 am (Read email & invitation)

Gálvez Expedition Chapter (Baton Rouge) Rum Sales (email)

Program: Sarah Zenaida Gould, Ph.D., is Executive Director of the Mexican American Civil Rights Institute, an emerging national Mexican American civil rights history museum and archive, and one of only twelve Latino history museums in the United States. She received a BA in American Studies from Smith College and an MA and Ph.D. in American Culture from the University of Michigan.

After a short Q&A the meeting was adjourned at 8:03.